

REMARKS

Examiner Nguyen is thanked for the courtesies extended during the interview on March 9, 2007.

It is believed that the Interview Summary is an accurate description of what was discussed during the Interview.

Reconsideration of the objection to the drawings is hereby requested. As stated in the Interview Summary, "Mr. Krinsky will submit replacement drawings of Figures 1 and 2 and new drawings of Figures 3 and 4". Replacement drawings and new Figures 3 and 4, addressing the drawing objections, are being submitted herein. Therefore, reconsideration of the objection to the drawings is respectfully requested.

Reconsideration of the rejection of Claims 8 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, is hereby requested. As stated in the Interview Summary, "Mr. Krinsky proposes amendments to the claims to overcome the drawing objections, 112 first and second rejections and the rejection based on Kerscher of Claim 23". Claim 23 has been so amended. Claim 9 has been amended to correct an inadvertent error in identifying a screw connection part. Therefore, reconsideration of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Reconsideration of the rejection of Claims 2-22 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, is hereby requested. As stated in the Interview Summary, "Mr. Krinsky proposes amendments to the claims to overcome the drawing objections, 112 first and second rejections and the rejection based on Kerscher of Claim 23". Claim 10 is cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter therein. Claims 2-9, 11, 12, 14 and 16-22 have been so amended. Therefore, reconsideration of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Reconsideration of the rejection of Claim 23 under §102(b) as being anticipated by Kerscher et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,234,062) and the rejection of Claims 2-5 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kerscher et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,234,062) in view of Wolfsteiner et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,722,477) and further in view of Fuderer et al. (EP 699846), is hereby requested. As stated in the Interview Summary, "The proposed amendment to Claim 23 appears to overcome Kerscher". Claim 23 has been so amended and has been otherwise amended to clarify the claim language. Therefore, Claim 23 is considered to be in condition for allowance and reconsideration of this rejection is respectfully requested.

The Brief Description of the Drawings in the Specification has been amended to add a description of new Figures 3 and 4.

IN THE DRAWINGS:

Figures 1 and 2 – Submitted as Replacement Sheets

Figures 3 and 4 – Add as new Figures

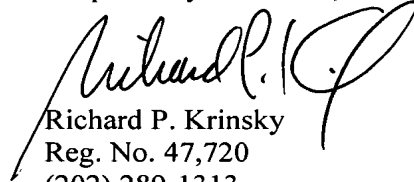
Claims 2-9 and 11-22 depend from Claim 23 and are considered to be in condition for allowance for at least the same reason as Claim 23 and for their own limitations as well, and such is respectfully requested.

Based upon the above, Claims 2-9, 11-23 and the Application are in condition for allowance and such is respectfully requested.

In view of all of the above, the Application is now in condition for allowance and such is hereby requested.

It is respectfully requested that, if necessary to effect a timely response, this paper be considered as a Petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response and shortages in other fees be charged, or any overpayment in fees be credited, to the Account of Barnes & Thornburg LLP, Deposit Account No. 02-1010 (566/42762).

Respectfully submitted,



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Enclosure(s): Amendments to the Specification
Amendments to the Claims
Amendments to the Drawings

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